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EDIC/ID-10
Attachment No. 2

Delivery of Finnish Mer ship WERGUS to Communist China

On 2 November 1954, it was reported that the Finnish merchant ship WERGUS, 1959 GRT, had been sold to Communist China for 39,500 pounds sterling with delivery at Shanghai scheduled for about 13 March 1955. This vessel, a 7-knot freighter built in 1904, was owned by Rederi-A/B Wergus (Goran Lonnholtz, Kuurila, Finland). The sale was negotiated by the Hamburg brokerage firm WELTFRACHT SCHIFFFAHRT und SPEDITION on behalf of the Chinese Communists. It was reported that the vessel would depart Hamburg for Shanghai toward the end of December 1954 manned by a Finnish crew and loaded with West German and transit goods of a non-strategic nature. According to a recent report, the vessel loaded sugar at Gdynia, departing that port on 28 December. It is further reported that the vessel will bunker at Gibraltar and Aden for the voyage to Shanghai. Notwithstanding the reported nature of the cargo, the bunkering of this vessel at the above ports will effect the delivery of a highly strategic commodity to Communist China.

NAVY DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

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